

TWENTY-NINTH SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Third Meeting of the 29th Senate
Monday, May 4, 1992
Regents Room, University Center, 7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order by the Presiding Officer:** Lee D. Grooms, Speaker of the 28th Senate
(designate of the President)
2. **Call of the Roll by the Secretary:** Quynh Thai, Senate Secretary
3. **Reading and Approval of the Senate Journal**
4. **Special Reports**
5. **Two Minute Speeches by the Members**
6. **Report of the President:** Rusty Hruska
7. **Report of the Vice President:** Charles Gaviola
8. **Report of the Speaker**
The Speaker and Speaker Pro-Tempore of the 29th Students' Association Senate are to be elected at this time.
9. **Reports of the Standing Committees**
 - a) Academic Affairs
 - b) Internal Affairs
 - c) Student Life
 - d) University Administration and Finance
10. **Report of the Select Committees**
11. **Special Orders**
12. **Introduction and First Reading of New Legislation**
 - a) Legislation Turned in to the Speaker Prior to Publication of the Agenda
 - **SAB29002:** A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO AMEND SECTION 5.0.9 OF TITLE 6 (ELECTION CODE) OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION CODE
Sponsor: John Bard
 - **SAB29003:** A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO CHANGE TITLE 3 OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION CODE ON POLICIES OF TERMINATING EMPLOYMENT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBERS
Sponsors: shane patrick boyle, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer
 - **SR29001:** A SENATE RESOLUTION THANKING PRESIDENT JAMES PICKERING FOR SIGNATURE OF THE LIBRARY FEE AND FOR INTEREST IN STUDENT ISSUES
Sponsors: shane patrick boyle, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer
 - **SR29002:** A SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JAMES PICKERING FOR HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF INTERIM PRESIDENT
Sponsors: Bobbie Bowen, Michelle Palmer
 - **UB29001:** A UNIVERSITY BILL REQUIRING STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS TO ALL STANDING AND AD HOC UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Sponsors: shane patrick boyle, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer

•**UB29002:** A UNIVERSITY BILL MAKING ELEVATORS IN THE UNIVERSITY CENTER MORE WHEELCHAIR -ACCESSIBLE

Sponsors: shane patrick boyle, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer

b) Legislation Introduced on the Senate Floor

13. Unfinished Business and General Orders

a) Presidential Nominations and Appointments

b) Reconsideration of Presidential Vetoes and Other Legislative Business

•**SAB29001:** A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO REVISE SECTION 5.0.4 OF THE TITLE 6 (ELECTION CODE)

Sponsor: Michelle Palmer

14. New Business and General Orders

a) Introduction of Presidential Nominations

b) Motions on Committee Bypass

c) Other New Business and General Orders

15. Comments and Announcements

16. Closing Call of the Roll by the Secretary: Quynh Thai, Senate Secretary

17. Adjournment

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ORDER OF BUSINESS
Third Meeting of the 29th Senate
Monday, May 4, 1991
Regents Room, University Center, 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order by the Presiding Officer:

The meeting was called to order by Speaker of the 28th Senate D. Lee Grooms at 7:10 p.m.

2. Call of the Roll by the Secretary:

Senate Secretary Quynh Thai called the roll and the following senators were present: John Bard, Bobbie Bowen, shane patrick boyle, Henry Gaw, Stephanie Hawkins, Aashish Malhotra, Dylan Moore, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer, Amy Parks, Gregory Propes, Louis Puente, Jennifer Zuber.

The following senators were late: Ralph Coatsworth, Brad Smith.

The following senators were absent: Mark Anderson, Aijaz Chaudry, Megan McGovern, Reshma Patel, Adnan Qureshi, Tony Rodriguez, Jerome Ronquillo, Sadiq Sayani, David Shine.

The following senators were excused: Dina Abramson, Jennifer Garner.

The following Executive Cabinet members were present: Rusty Hruska, Judith McKinney, Frank San Miguel.

The following university officials were present: Consuelo Trevino, Director of Campus Activities.

a) Swearing in of the President

Chair of Hearing Board, Triffany Russell administered the oath of office to Rusty Hruska.

3. Reading and Approval of the Senate Journal from the Previous Meeting:

The Senate Journal was approved as corrected by the members.

4. Special Reports:

None.

5. Two Minute Speeches by the Members:

None.

6. Report of the President:

SA President Rusty Hruska said that the election is finally over and it is time to mend wounds inflicted during the election. He said that it is also time to get serious and represent the UH student body.

President Hruska said that during his term as president he will work on programs that will effect the student body and he said that he when the 29th Senate close next year, he would like to be able to say that SA did do something for the UH student body. He said that there is a lot of hard work ahead of SA and he appreciates the 29th Senate's cooperation.

7. Report of the Vice President:

Vice President Charles Gaviola was not in attendance.

8. Report of the Speaker

Senator Moore nominated Senator Bard for Speaker. The nomination was seconded by Senator Zuber. Senator Bard asked that the senators recalled his nomination speech from last week and he said that what he said last week still stands. He said that he is very interested in working hard for SA and its members. Senator Bard said that he would appreciate their vote.

Senator Bowen nominated Senator Palmer for Speaker. The nomination was seconded by Senator Propes. Senator Palmer also asked the senators to recalled her nomination speech from last week and to judge her qualifications from what she said.

A secret ballot vote was cast and Senator Bard was declared the new Speaker.

Senator Bard assumed the chair and asked for nomination from the floor for Speaker Pro Tem.

Senator Bowen nominated Michelle Palmer.

A unanimous ballot declared Senator Palmer the new Speaker Pro-Tem.

9. Reports of the Standing Committees:

Speaker Bard announced the following Committee Chair Nominations:

- a) Academic Affairs–Dina Abramson
- b) Internal Affairs–Michelle Palmer
- c) Student Life–Tony Rodriguez
- d) University of Administration and Finance–David Shine

Speaker Bard informed the senators that a copy of the nominations and members of committee will be place in their boxes tomorrow.

10. Reports of the Select Committees:

Senator Palmer said that the Select Committee met informally and review all the legislations introduced at the last meeting, which was ruled "out of order." She said that the committee made amends to some of the bills and will ask to bypass them tonight.

11. Special Orders:

None.

12. Introduction and First Reading of New Legislation:

- a) Legislation Turned in to the Speaker Prior to Publication of the Agenda

None.

- b) Legislation Introduced on the Senate Floor

Senator boyle introduced SAR29001: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY'S NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY.

13. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

Senator Palmer said that SAB29001: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO AMEND SECTION 5.0.4 OF TITLE 6 (THE ELECTION CODE) had some amends that were discussed at the previous meeting. She reminded the senators that the bill changes the election code by making it a little more clearer. After a Senate vote the bill passed as amended.

14. New Business and General Orders:

- a) Introduction of Presidential Nominations

None.

b) Motions on Committee Bypass

Senator Palmer moved to bypass SAB29002: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO AMEND SECTION 5.0.9 OF THE TITLE 6 (ELECTION CODE) OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION CODE, seconded by Senator Bowen.

Speaker Bard asked Speaker Pro-Tem Palmer to take the chair.

Speaker Bard spoke in favor of the bill by saying that the bill is straight forward and due to the past election he felt that it was only "common sense" to adopt the bill. He said that the bill will prohibit anyone who was found with fraudulent practices from Students' Association Election. Speaker Bard said that it was due to Mr. Kauta's actions that brought him to this "loophole" in the SA's constitution. He said that the bill is not a personal issue, but that he would like to see this "loophole" patched-up.

After a vote the bill bypassed committee.

The bill was called to a vote after a general consent.

After a vote the Senate passed the bill.

Speaker Pro-Tem Palmer yielded the chair to Speaker Bard.

Senator Palmer moved to bypass SR29001: A SENATE RESOLUTION THANKING PRESIDENT JAMES PICKERING FOR SIGNATURE OF THE LIBRARY FEE AND FOR INTEREST IN STUDENT ISSUES, seconded by Senator Bowen.

After a direct vote the resolution bypassed committee.

Senator Palmer spoke in favor by saying that the resolution is "self-explanatory."

After a Senate vote the resolution passed.

Senator Palmer moved to bypass SR29002: A SENATE RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JAMES PICKERING FOR HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF INTERIM PRESIDENT, seconded by Senator Morales.

After a direct vote the resolution bypassed committee.

Senator Palmer spoke in favor by saying that this resolution is also "self-explanatory."

After a Senate vote the resolution passed.

Senator Palmer moved to bypass UB29001: A UNIVERSITY BILL REQUIRING STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS TO ALL STANDING AND AD HOC UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES, seconded by Senator Morales.

After a direct vote the bill bypassed committee.

Senator Palmer spoke in favor by saying that there are standing and ad hoc university committee that SA does not have appointments to. She said that since some of the committees do have SA's interest and concern, she would like SA's appointments made to them.

Senator Propes said that he is not in opposition to this bill, but he does not see in the bill the terms in which the appointments are going to made.

Senator Palmer said that the appointments will be made in the same manner that the all other university committees are made.

Director of Public Relations Interim, Frank San Miguel informed the senators that the SA president makes the nominations for the appointments and that the Director of Personnel also reviews applications of interest students and nominations for the appointments. He said that after the nominations and applications are reviewed they are brought to standing committees for review and then to the Senate for 3/4 approval.

After a Senate vote the bill passed.

Senator Palmer moved to bypass SAB29003: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION BILL TO AMEND TITLE 3 OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION CODE ON POLICIES OF TERMINATING EMPLOYMENT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBERS, seconded by Senator boyle.

After a direct vote the bill bypassed committee.

Senator Palmer spoke in favor by saying that the bill provides the the SA Executive Cabinet members with the right to file an appeal to the Student Court before he or she is dismiss from office. She said that this right is available in the "real" world and should be available to the members of the Executive Cabinet.

Senator Morales moved to yield the floor to former SA Treasurer Cipriano Romero, seconded by Senator Propes. Mr. Romero informed the senators the during the President Berry's administration the Executive Cabinet members did have problems with the termination of executive members. He said

although there were problems the terminated officers did not have any recourse. Mr. Romero said that this bill will give Executive members the right to appeal to the courts, giving the courts the responsibility to make the final decision. He informed the Senate that the Student Court has no standard in the SA Constitution to determine what is an unjust termination. Mr. Romero ask the senators to oppose the bill until guidelines are made to the constitution to determine what is an unjust termination. He said that since the members work directly for president and if the president feels that a member is not fulfilling the job to the his or her satisfaction then the president should not the burden of justifying his termination. Mr. Romero said that he feels that this policy will be an encroachment of the judicial branch on the executive branch. Mr. Romero said that the U.S. government does not have this clause and that he see no reason why a small organization like SA needs this type of implementation. He ask that the senators take this into account before voting on the bill.

Director of Public Relation Interim, Frank San Miguel informed the Senate that Richard Goldbar, a former Director of Personnel was fired from his position due to personality conflicts with the 28th Senate President Michael Berry. He said that the SA Constitution provides a description of the duties of each members of the Executive Cabinet and therefore, the decision of termination should be base on if the member fulfilled the job requirement.

Senator Moore said that he is opposition to the bill because in referring to the "real" world, the U.S. presidential cabinet appointment happen every four years. He said that in the "real" world the president usually surrounds himself with cabinet members who he is comfortable with and who he can work with. Senator Moore said that by bring every termination to the courts will only hinder SA.

Senator Zuber said that the bill is design to prevent the SA president from being able to fire a cabinet member automatically. She said that she does not feel that anyone person should have the power to go around firing people.

After a vote the bill passed.

Senator boyle moved to bypass SAR29001: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY'S NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY, seconded by Senator Palmer.

Senator boyle informed the Senate that recently the university added to the University's Non-Discrimination Policy the factor of sexual orientation and he said that this bill is to assure its enforcement. He said that the ROTC continues to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and violates the university policy. Senator boyle said that the bill not only pertains to ROTC, but other organizations as well.

Senator Palmer said that ROTC is a university unit and should be compelled to follow university policy.

Senator Gaw asked Senator boyle if the sexual orientation fell under the guidelines of United States military.

Senator boyle said that it is military policy to restricted homosexual from duty, however it conflicts with university policy. He said that the university policy should go over the military policy.

After a Senate vote the bill failed.

c) Other New Business and General Orders

There was no other New Business.

15. Comments and Announcements

Speaker Bard asked the senators who were not assigned to a committee to please fill out an Senate Inventory sheet.

Senator Morales said that although the bill on sexual orientation failed, it should not be an obstacle for those people to serve the society and university. He said that he would like to see a bill similar to that one but more general. Senator Morales said that the bill concerning the issue of executive members will give the members the option to appeal but will tie the hands of the president. He asked that in the future the Senate will reconsider the bill just passed. Senator Morales expressed his concern about the L.A. Riots and he said that the present of the military guards will not be a sight that will be common in America.

16. Closing Call of the Roll by the Secretary

Senate Secretary Quynh Thai called the closing call of the roll and the following senators were present: John Bard, Bobbie Bowen, shane patrick boyle, Henry Gaw, Stephanie Hawkins, Aashish Malhotra, Dylan Moore, Carlos Morales, Michelle Palmer, Amy Parks, Gregory Propes, Louis Puente, Jennifer Zuber.

The following senators were absent: Mark Anderson, Aijaz Chaudry, Megan McGovern, Reshma Patel, Adnan Qureshi, Tony Rodriguez, Jerome Ronquillo, Sadiq Sayani, David Shine.

The following senators were excused: Dina Abramson, Jennifer Garner.

17. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 8:10 p.m.

APPROVED AS AMENDED BY THE TWENTY-NINTH SENATE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 1,1992

Quynh Thai, Senate Secretary

John Bard, Speaker of the Senate